

Florida's Turnpike Mainline (SR 91) Widening From North of SR 60 to South of Clay Whaley Road

FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE

Mile Post 193-238.5 | Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study FPID Number: 423374-3-22-01 EDTM Number: 14523

Newsletter 1 - June 2024

ABOUT THIS STUDY

Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, part of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for widening Florida's Turnpike Mainline (SR 91) from North of SR 60 (Yeehaw Junction - Mile Post 193) to South of Clay Whaley Road (St. Cloud – Mile Post 238.5) in Osceola County, Florida. The project will also evaluate potential new interchange locations. The study area extends approximately 45.5 miles as shown in the project location map. For more information on this project, please visit the project website at www.TurnpikeSR60toCWR.com.

WHAT IS A PD&E STUDY?

A PD&E Study is an environmental and engineering process conducted to determine social, cultural, economic, physical, and environmental impacts associated with a proposed transportation improvement project. An important component of the process is public and agency involvement. The process follows federal and state laws and regulations. It requires the combined efforts of professional engineers, planners, and scientists who collect and analyze project-related information to develop the optimal solution for a community's transportation needs while minimizing impacts.

The key components of the PD&E process includes evaluating conditions, future needs, alternatives development, environmental and engineering evaluations, public and agency input, documentation, and study recommendations.

The project development process begins with planning studies and ends with a constructed project. The FDOT project development process is a comprehensive process involving Planning, Project Development and Environment (PD&E), Design, Right of Way (ROW), and Construction phases. It is important to understand the sequence and interrelation between these phases to successfully deliver a project.



PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of this project is to increase capacity, meet existing and future travel demand, address roadway deficiencies, and safety for the segment of Florida's Turnpike (State Road (SR) 91) from north of SR 60 at approximately Mile Post 193 to south of Clay Whaley Road at approximately Mile Post 238.5. Additionally, Florida's Turnpike Mainline is a designated emergency evacuation route by the Florida Division of Emergency Management. The project will also evaluate potential new interchange locations.

PROJECT SCHEDULE & OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE







PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The PD&E Study involves evaluating alternatives for widening Florida's Turnpike Mainline (SR 91) from North of SR 60 to South of Clay Whaley Road (Mile Post 193-238.5) in Osceola County, Florida. Possible future interchange access locations are also included as part of this study. The Turnpike Mainline within the project area is currently a four-lane (two lanes in each direction) limited-access toll facility. The PD&E Study will evaluate different improvement alternatives and prepare project cost for:

- Widening the Turnpike Mainline to three lanes in each direction, from north of SR 60 to the planned Southport Connector Expressway
- Widening the Turnpike to four lanes in each direction, from the planned Southport Connector Expressway to south of Clay Whaley Road
- Recommendations for potential phased implementation
- Prepare alternatives for consideration of up to two new interchanges
- No build alternative

The proposed corridor improvements will bring additional benefits such as:

- · Increasing capacity
- Meeting existing and future travel demands
- · Improving facility operations
- · Enhancing roadside safety features



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Florida's Turnpike Enterprise encourages the public to get involved by providing comments, questions, and suggestions to the study team. Information will be available through newsletters, the project website, public inquiries, public meetings, and a public hearing. Please contact the Project Manager, Jason Christopher, P.E., ENV SP, using the contact information provided below to request more information or to be added to the mailing list. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

PROJECT CONTACTS

Jason Christopher, P.E., ENV SP

Project Manager

Consultant to Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

P.O. Box 613069 Ocoee, FL 34761 Phone: 407-264-3260

E-mail: Jason.Christopher@dot.state.fl.us

Rax Jung, Ph.D., P.E.

Project Development Engineer Florida's Turnpike Enterprise

PO Box 613069 Ocoee, FL 34761

Phone: 407-264-3870

Email: Rax.Jung@dot.state.fl.us



Title VI/Nondiscrimination Program - Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Florida Department of Transportation, under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Age Discrimination Act of 1975; Section 324 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973; Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987; and related statutes and regulations, that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability/handicap, or income status, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination or retaliation under any federally or non-federally funded program or activity administered by the Department or its sub-recipients.